

Chapter 1—Three Societies on the Verge of Contact

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. A contemporary revaluation of carbon dating evidence of more recent archeological evidence suggests that the first settlers may have reached North America in all of the following ways *except*
- on boats following whales across the Pacific from Asia.
 - across a land bridge called Beringia following large mammals.
 - following the Pacific Coast of today's Alaska.
 - much earlier than 12,000 years ago.
 - coming from Scandinavia across Greenland in search of fish.

ANS: B REF: p. 5

2. The significance of Kennewick Man was that
- his remains showed a European presence in North America from about 9,000 BCE
 - it was proof that Europeans were some of the earliest peoples to arrive.
 - his remains proved that Europeans and Asians evolved from a similar background.
 - his discovery proved that the first peoples arrived on the West Coast in what is now Washington.
 - his discovery called into question several assumptions that scientists had long held about the physical characteristics of early settlers in the Paleo-Indians era.

ANS: E REF: p. 5

3. One thing that we know for certain about the earliest people is that
- the largest influx of people took place between 9500 and 8000 BCE.
 - most arrived about 15,000 years ago.
 - the greatest influx of people in the early period came between 20,000 and 10,000 BCE.
 - they brought with them their skills in fur-trapping.
 - they were already skilled in agriculture when they arrived.

ANS: C REF: p. 5

4. The most important change in the archaic era in the Americas was
- the rise of the Mayan Empire.
 - the end of the Ice Age.
 - the expansion of agriculture and establishment of sedentary communities.
 - the formation of tribes.
 - the extinction of the Mammoth.

ANS: C REF: p. 6

5. The Olmec people of Mexico are important because
- they were masters of rice production and cultivation.
 - their society was known for its sophisticated mound-building.
 - they were the first to abandon the tribal practice of human sacrifice.
 - they established networks of trade based on fishing.
 - they were a precursor to the many maize-based societies that would later develop in North America.

ANS: E REF: p. 6

6. Which of the following statements about pre-Columbian civilizations is true?
- a. Most of these civilizations were based on broad networks of trade.
 - b. Only the Incas and Maya built sophisticated and complex cities and urban societies.
 - c. Economies based on agriculture allowed extended settlement in one area and the development of a broad trade network.
 - d. Most of these societies had been decimated by internal wars even before Europeans arrived.
 - e. Several of their great cities probably reached populations of about one quarter of a million residents each.

ANS: C

REF: p. 6

7. Chaco Canyon is noted for being
- a. the largest pre-Columbian culture in North America.
 - b. home to more than a dozen Anasazi "Great Houses."
 - c. the site of the largest Mississippian-shaped mound.
 - d. the main agricultural stronghold in the West.
 - e. viewed by the Anasazi as the source of all life.

ANS: B

REF: p. 7

8. Which of the following claims is the only one that we now know was *not* true of early American civilizations?
- a. Civilizations outgrew their capacity to grow food for their people.
 - b. Battles with enemy tribes forced certain groups to abandon the central parts of their civilizations.
 - c. The Americas were virgin land before contact with Europeans.
 - d. North and South America had perhaps as many as 100 million inhabitants.
 - e. Major droughts brought an end to some civilizations.

ANS: C

REF: p. 8

9. Most Indian religions were
- a. polytheistic and animistic.
 - b. sentimental.
 - c. hedonistic.
 - d. egalitarian.
 - e. monotheistic.

ANS: A

REF: p. 9

10. Which of the following was *not* a Northeastern tribe?
- a. Wampanoag
 - b. Massachusetts
 - c. Narragansett
 - d. Mohawk
 - e. Cheyenne

ANS: E

REF: p. 9

11. For subsistence, native tribes of the High Plains relied in large part on
- maize.
 - trade with Western and Southern tribes.
 - gathering.
 - bison herds.
 - fishing.

ANS: D REF: p. 11

12. The Pueblo people of the Southwest
- were famous for their basket weaving and ceramics.
 - constructed multistoried buildings in canyons and river valleys.
 - held major buffalo hunts each year for food to preserve for the winter.
 - usually had tobacco as their main trade crop.
 - carved elaborate totem poles and masks for special occasions.

ANS: B REF: p. 11

13. The Iroquois Confederacy was formed in part for the purpose of
- defending themselves against attacks from other tribes in the northeast region.
 - sharing resources.
 - wiping out European settlements.
 - controlling the best hunting lands.
 - allowing intermarriage between the tribes.

ANS: A REF: p. 12

14. Most Native Americans believed that property
- should never be sold.
 - could not be privately owned, but could be used by everyone when needed.
 - belonged to the spirits.
 - was given to them by the gods.
 - belonged to the people using it at the time.

ANS: B REF: p. 12

15. Which of the following is the most accurate statement regarding Africans and the North American slave trade from the 16th to the 18th century?
- Africans traveled to North America in a variety of ways, only one of which was the forced transportation as slaves.
 - The enslavement of Africans for the purpose of selling them in North America depopulated large sections of West Africa.
 - Although African slaves did not make up a huge percentage of new arrivals in colonial North America, they profoundly changed labor, social, and cultural relations.
 - African slaves came from all parts and corners of the continent.
 - Although the number of slaves imported to North America was small, they made up a very large proportion of immigrants to colonial North America.

ANS: C REF: p. 12

16. What was the relationship between Africans of the Lower Guinea – many of whom would later be forcibly brought to America – and the religion of Islam?
- a. After Islam was introduced, it was widely embraced and practiced.
 - b. Islam was the national religion.
 - c. Some Africans practiced Islam, but most adhered to their traditional religions
 - d. All of these choices.
 - e. None of these choices.

ANS: C

REF: p. 14-15

17. Which of the following statements is true of the empires of West Africa?
- a. Mali's principal city, Timbuktu, became the cultural and artistic capital of Africa.
 - b. The kingdom of Ghana absorbed the kingdom of Mali by the thirteenth century.
 - c. Around 1500, the ruler of Songhay converted to Christianity.
 - d. Ghana was eventually conquered by the Muslim kingdom of Kongo.
 - e. The city of Timbuktu was an important center for the religion of Islam.

ANS: A

REF: p. 14

18. Which of the following is *not* a true statement about the practice of slavery in Africa?
- a. Africans of Lower Guinea owned slaves who were also other Africans.
 - b. Slaves were usually captives from wars.
 - c. Slaves were not denied access to education.
 - d. The children of slaves were not predestined to become slaves themselves.
 - e. Slavery was a lifelong condition.

ANS: E

REF: p. 14

19. Religion as practiced in Lower Guinea by the 1500s
- a. was mainly that of Islam.
 - b. consisted of one major god and several lesser gods with specific capacities.
 - c. was monotheistic.
 - d. had one major demigod the people prayed to as a direct connection between them and their major god.
 - e. was based almost completely on animal worship.

ANS: B

REF: p. 15

20. Mercantilism is an economic theory that suggests that
- a. a nation or a state's prosperity was determined by the total volume of its trade.
 - b. prosperity depended on business investment, not on consumer demand.
 - c. consumer demand was central to economic growth.
 - d. free markets were a natural order that should not be disturbed by state interference with international trade.
 - e. gold was the basis of all value.

ANS: A

REF: p. 16

21. By 1492, Europe had changed in all of the following ways that would lay the foundation for its exploration of other lands *except*
- a. the rise of nations.
 - b. merchants had become a powerful force.
 - c. the decline of feudalism.
 - d. the decline of mercantilism.
 - e. Catholicism faced challenges and schisms

ANS: D

REF: p. 19

22. The Renaissance was
- a. a movement to breathe new life into Christian religion.
 - b. the rebirth of feudalism.
 - c. a movement celebrating cultural difference.
 - d. an intellectual and artistic flowering in fourteenth century Europe.
 - e. a period of great exploration and expansion.

ANS: D

REF: p. 16

23. The Hundred Years' War made it necessary for Iberian and Italian merchants to search for new water routes that connected northern and southern Europe, because they could not safely travel through
- a. France.
 - b. Belgium.
 - c. England.
 - d. the Netherlands.
 - e. Austria.

ANS: A

REF: p. 17

24. Which of these did *not* contribute to the decline of feudalism?
- a. the decline of Catholicism as religious influence in western Europe
 - b. the Black Death
 - c. the Crusades
 - d. the Hundred Years' War
 - e. trade expansion

ANS: A

REF: p. 17

25. As European cities grew and prospered during the 14th through 15th centuries,
- a. farmers could not provide enough food for urban residents.
 - b. serfs who took jobs in the cities began to purchase their freedom.
 - c. schools for children from non-noble families became more important.
 - d. the Church became more important.
 - e. more women began to participate in politics.

ANS: B

REF: p. 16

26. The Christian humanism that developed in Europe during the Middle Ages revolved around the importance of
- a. the Church.
 - b. the Pope.
 - c. the individual.
 - d. Thomas Aquinas.
 - e. the Renaissance.

ANS: C

REF: p. 1

27. Which of the following was *not* a factor in the emergence of the Protestant Reformation?
- The church had grown increasingly secular in its discipline.
 - The church was selling indulgences, which limited a sinner's time in purgatory.
 - Christian humanism in Europe's growing urban centers fostered a renewed belief in the importance of the individual as opposed to the institution of the church.
 - There was growing criticism of Church rituals, including the mass.
 - Christians increasingly objected to the church's emphasis on the Bible as the sole source of authority in religious doctrine.

ANS: E

REF: p. 18

28. Before 1500, which of these European countries was weakest?
- France
 - Spain
 - England
 - Portugal
 - the Netherlands

ANS: C

REF: p. 19

29. Which of the following was *not* true of the Black Death?
- About one third of Europe's population perished.
 - The other name for the Black Death was the Bubonic Plague.
 - It contributed to the decline of feudalism.
 - It triggered the Crusades.
 - It made the farmers more valuable because there were fewer of them.

ANS: D

REF: p. 17

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the various theories about how the first people came to the Americas. Which theory seems most likely to you?

ANS:

Students' answers will vary

REF: p. 4-5

2. Compare and contrast the native peoples of the various regions of North America as they existed in the pre-Columbian era.

ANS:

Students' answers will vary

REF: p. 6-8

3. Discuss the changes that Europe experienced from the Middle Ages to the opening of the Age of exploration and discovery.

ANS:

Students' answers will vary

REF: p. 15-20

4. Discuss politics, society, and religion in Africa before European arrival. In your opinion, does it make sense to speak of one African culture?

ANS:

Students' answers will vary

REF: p. 12-15

TRUE/FALSE

1. During the Archaic era, maize was a staple crop that helped make a sedentary existence possible.

ANS: T

REF: p. 6

2. The Anasazi were noted for their complex earthen mounds.

ANS: F

REF: p. 7

3. Several different tribes in the Southwest were called "the Pueblo people" by the Europeans.

ANS: T

REF: p. 11

4. Increasing trade and competition among European powers was a major factor in the decline of feudalism.

ANS: T

REF: p. 16

5. The native societies in the northeastern part of what is now the United States depended almost entirely on fishing for their food supply.

ANS: F

REF: p. 8

6. The Omaha and the Iroquois were two of the tribes living on the Great Plains.

ANS: F

REF: p. 10-11

7. The Native American tribes in the Northwest were known for constructing complex and dramatic totem poles.

ANS: T

REF: p. 11

8. Among the North American tribes, when two tribes went to war, the captors usually took the men of the opposing tribe as slaves.

ANS: T

REF: p. 12

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9. The Africans in Lower Guinea were one of the few groups to believe in a single supreme ruler and several lesser gods.

ANS: T

REF: p. 15

10. The Renaissance was an artistic and intellectual reconnection with classical Greece and Rome.

ANS: T

REF: p. 16